

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: )  
RANEY et al. ) Before the Examiner  
Application No. 10/729,546 ) Dryden, Matthew Dutton  
Filed December 05, 2003 ) Group Art Unit  
SAMPLING DEVICES AND METHODS ) 3736  
UTILIZING A HORIZONTAL CAPILLARY ) Confirmation No.  
TEST STRIP ) 1896

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2006, please enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-mentioned patent application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any extensions of time as well as any additional fees or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.